

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 11, 2006 (hereinafter "Office Action"). Applicants appreciate the withdrawal of the restriction requirement and the indication that Claims 3-18, 22-38 and 43 recite patentable subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse the new rejections of Claims 1, 2, 19-21 and 39-42, at least because the cited U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0125020 to Hendler et al. (hereinafter "Hendler") does not provide the teachings alleged in the Office Action.

Independent Claims 1, 20 and 39 are patentable over Hendler

The Office Action cites Hendler as allegedly disclosing "an antenna comprising a ground plane (18); a conductor loop (24 and 30) overlying the ground plane (18); and a monopole (14 and 16) extending off the ground plane (18), wherein the monopole (14 and 16) and the conductor loop (24 and 30) are configured to be coupled to a common feed-point." Office Action, p. 2. Looking at the cited paragraphs [0033] - [0037], Applicants point out that the references 24 and 30 are "terminating ends" of respective transmission lines 20 and 22. *See* Hendler, paragraph [0034]. Therefore, the items 24 and 30 are not "a conductor *loop*."

Moreover, the terminating ends 24 and 30 also do not appear to be overlying the ground plane (18). Rather, as shown in FIG. 1 and described in paragraph [0037] of Hendler, the transmission lines 20 and 22 (which terminate at terminating ends 24 and 30) are straight etched or printed lines formed on the same dielectric substrate 12 as the ground plane 18, and appear to be separated from the ground plane 18 by exposed portions of the dielectric substrate 12. Therefore, the transmission lines 20 and 22 are in the same plane as the ground plane 18 and, thus, do not *overlie* the ground plane 18.

Accordingly, Hendler does not disclose or suggest, among other things, "a conductor loop overlying the ground plane" as recited in Claim 1. Because Hendler does not disclose or suggest the recited "conductor loop," Hendler also does not disclose or suggest "wherein the monopole and the conductor loop are configured to be coupled to a common feedpoint," as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Hendler does not disclose or suggest several of the recitations of Claim 1 and, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over

Hendler. Applicants submit that independent Claim 20 is patentable over Hendler for at least similar reasons.

Similar reasons support withdrawal of the rejection of independent Claim 39. In particular, as discussed above, Hendler does not disclose or suggest a "conductor loop." Moreover, the figures and paragraphs from Hendler cited on page 3 of the Office Action as allegedly teaching the recitations of Claim 39 appear to lack any disclosure or suggestion of the "helical element" recited in Claim 39. Accordingly, Hendler does not disclose or suggest several of the recitations of independent Claim 39 and, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that independent Claim 39 is patentable over Hendler.

The dependent claims are patentable

Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-19, 21-38 and 39-43 are patentable at least by virtue of the patentability of the various ones of independent Claims 1, 20 and 39 from which they depend. Applicants further submit that, in addition to Claims 3-18, 22-38 and 43 indicated as separately patentable in the Office Action, several of rejected dependent Claims 2, 19, 21 and 40-42 are also separately patentable.

Claims 2 and 21, which stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by Hendler, each recite " wherein the conductor loop has a reflective feature therein." In rejecting Claims 2 and 21, the Office Action merely states "[s]ee figure 1." Office Action, pp. 2 and 3. Applicants submit that this is an insufficient basis for supporting the rejection, as the Office Action fails to provide any specific indication as to where the alleged reflective feature might be found in FIG. 1. Moreover, as discussed above, Hendler does not disclose or suggest a "conductor loop" and, therefore, Hendler also does not disclose a conductor loop with "a reflective feature therein." For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claims 2 and 21 are also separately patentable.

Claim 19, which also stands rejected as allegedly anticipated by Hendler, recites "a helical element wrapped around the monopole and coupled to the common feedpoint." The Office Action cites paragraphs [0017] - [0019] of Hendler as allegedly teaching such recitations. See Office Action, p. 3. Paragraphs [0017] and [0018] are part of the Background of the Invention section of Hendler, and describe broadband monopoles "known

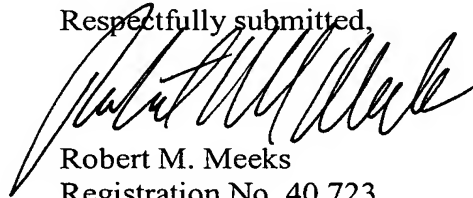
in the art" (paragraph [0017]) that appear to be of no particular relevance to the structures described in paragraph [0019] or shown in FIGs. 1-8 of Hendler. Moreover, nowhere do paragraphs [0017] - [0019] disclose or suggest a helical element *wrapped around a monopole* as recited in Claim 19. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 19 is also separately patentable.

Applicants note that the Office Action provides no substantive basis for the rejections of Claims 40 and 42 and, for at least these reasons, these rejections are erroneous and should be withdrawn. Applicants further submit that Claim 40 is also separately patentable over Hendler for at least similar reasons to those discussed above with reference to Claims 2 and 21, and that Claim 42 is also separately patentable over Hendler for at least similar reasons to those discussed above with reference to independent Claims 1 and 20. Finally, regarding the rejection of Claim 41, as discussed above, Hendler does not disclose or suggest a "conductor loop," much less a "rectangular conductor loop" as recited in Claim 41. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 41 is also separately patentable over Hendler.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, request allowance of the claims and passing of the application to issue in due course. Applicants encourage the examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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